

ought to start a work there. O pray the Lord of harvest to send sacrificing spirit filled laborers into the vineyard. Brethren pray for us.

ISAAC D. BOWMAN.

The Johnstown Conference.

The late conference at Johnstown, Pa., has taken its place in the annals of history and the results of its work on the destiny of that part of the human race affected by it will develop in the years to come and pass. Whether for good or ill it is beyond our power to realize. Whatever mistakes are made can only be amended as they manifest themselves on the stage of action and experience.

Our impression is that much good and little harm will come from our work there. The spirit of brotherly love which permeated all the proceedings gave satisfactory evidence of the presence of the spirit of our Lord. The elements of discord which too frequently animate deliberative bodies were conspicuously absent.

The selfish brother and sister seems to have gone out of business, to our great delight.

Questions were considered and decided with sole reference to the Lord's will and the good of the church. Of course, differences prevailed in discussions, and earnest contentions developed, as it ever will be when all are equal and when persons do their own thinking, but the verdict of the conference was taken to be the will of God and that ended it.

The character of the business was of great moment to the church, and generations unborn will be affected by it.

Our initial movement in the work of foreign missions was taken and an enlarged effort in home missions was duly considered. Other lines of church work auxiliary to the regular ministry, were a prominent feature of the conference.

The Kings Children Society and the S. S. C. E., were on the program conspicuously and proved most instructive and interesting. The day is not far distant in the mists of the future when they will be mighty forces in the uplifting of the Savior's kingdom in the world. Those who lead them are clothed with vast responsibilities. May our Lord bless their work.

The accommodations were, on the whole, successful and satisfactory. Of course we do not claim that they could not have been better, but the defects were not serious.

As it is a prevailing usage in all our towns and cities that religious conferences are given free entertainment, and as we do our share in entertaining them, it is no more than equitable to ask that ours be placed on the same footing. We hope

those who have such matters in charge in the future, will see that we are not discriminated against on such occasions.

The intellectual and spiritual calibre of the ministry of our church as exhibited there is sufficiently prominent to attract favorable comment, and lively hopes for the future. Without egotism it can be safely affirmed that our brethren of the classical robes are not one whit behind any in pulpit efficiency.

Our National Conference for 1898, has been programmed and the time and place have been fixed and the outlook authorize the prediction that it will be an improvement on their part.

Provision has been made for the collection and reporting of church statistics which will supply an important missing link. The statistics which are gathered by our state districts are to be forwarded to the secretary of the National Conference and by him tabulated in requisite form and reported to the conference. Thus we will have, at each National Conference, a complete chapter of the history of our church as it is made annually by our busy army of workers.

The personnel of the conference was not its least interesting feature.

First in interest was the father and forerunner of our beloved brotherhood, Elder H. R. Holsinger. It made us all sad to see him suffering fleshly infirmities. Bro. Holsinger has been a blessed service for the ancient Apostolic doctrine as held by our church and it must give him great peace of soul to see the little plant, which, through years of toil and conflict, took deep root at Arnold's Grove in 1882, now spreading its winding branches over this and foreign countries and blessing increasing multitudes with spiritual and ecclesiastical freedom. May our Lord, whose cause he has so successfully championed, give him a peaceful evening and finally an abundant entrance into the everlasting rest.

Brother Tombaugh, of Ohio, the Moderator, is happily constituted for the service of that responsible office. He is, in Quaker parlance "a mighty brother" and if braved would count in the conflict with Satan. Brother Tombaugh would be an antagonist of formidable proportions. As a leader of the hosts of the Lord he is making a glorious record. Our fair young sisters will, doubtless, disagree with me in commanding his course in avoiding the cares of a household.

Talley, of Illinois, the head of the columns of Kings Children, is a warrior of royal proportions. He is finely equipped for the duties of his honorable post, and the future holds in its embrace great possibilities for his department.

McFaden, of Chicago, is a tough customer to encounter as an antagonist. The fact is he shoots with his eyes shut, by faith you see, and such shots always hit. If there is a man in the brotherhood who is ever ready to fight the world, flesh and the devil, Mac is the man. Whether it is the Irish in his blood, or God's grace in his heart, or Paul's faith in his miracle, or all three combined, I will not now testify. One thing I know, he will drive as many devils out of Chicago as any man we have.

And then there is sister Sadie Gibbons, Mac's valient assistant. Sunny-faced Sadie, angel of the slums, may God give you a brilliant crown some day.

Bro. Gillin of Iowa, the Secretary of the conference, wears the crown of youth as meekly, yet as royally as his illustrious phototype Timothy. Let no man despise thy youth dear comrade brother. It is glorious to be in the dawn of the morning of life in this the dawning of the morning of the church.

Barth of Chicago is a gem of a fighter. If there's a man in the church who can make the devil look ridiculous and ashamed of himself Barth is the man. I think our Lord has raised him up for the special service of General of the scouts.

Yoder of Ind., is a man after Paul's own heart, although the early dew of youth is fresh on his ruddy cheeks. A hundred of his kind would make history glorious with heroic deed for Apostolic religion.

Rench of Indiana, is a conferee to be remembered with most pleasing emotions. He has the happy faculty of keeping his arsenal filled with material for effective battle, and me thinks Satan considers the day a black one wherein he meets our hoosier brother. I wonder if he (Satan) does not spell the name with a capital "W."

Was Cassel of Philadelphia there do you ask? Where is it that Cassel is not, when the thunder of battle and the shouting of the captains is heard, but in the hottest of the fray. It is glorious to see the vivid lightning flashing from his eye and hear his clarion voice as he swings his Damascine sword through the necks of the Lord's enemies. It was of such that David wrote two of whom could "put ten thousand to flight." Verily he is not a "Cassel in the air" but on the solid ground to the great discomfiture of those who do not love the Lord. May he live a thousand years.

And there is I. D. Bowman, a very prince in Israel. We are all so glad that he thinks he is wholly sanctified, for he just fights as though the conquest of the world depends entirely on him. I wish we all had that kind of sanctification.